

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-52 are pending. Claim 42 has been withdrawn from consideration, claims 1-11, 13-22, 25-39, 41, and 43-52 have been rejected, and claims 12, 23, 24, and 40 have been objected to. Claims 53-55 have been added. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 12, 23, 24, and 40.

Turning to the substance of the Office Action, claims 3, 50, and 52 have been objected to because of informalities. Applicant believes the amendments to the claims overcome these informalities.

Claims 1-11, 13-22, 25-39, 41, and 43-52 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sharrit et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,999,990) in view of Savitzky (U.S. Patent No. 5,337,412). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 1-11, 13-22, 25-28, 37-39, 41, 43, 45, 46, 48, 51, and 52 are directed to an object-oriented virtual machine interface and method for a reconfigurable wireless network communication apparatus, which has a plurality of kernels. The object-oriented virtual machine interface includes a plurality of software objects including a first subset of the software objects. Each software object in the first subset of the software objects is associated with a different kernel in the plurality of kernels so that a change to a software object in the first subset of the software objects results in a change in the kernel associated with the software object.

Claims 29-36, 49, and 50 are directed to a method of communication using an object oriented virtual machine interface and a reconfigurable multi-protocol communication apparatus, which includes a plurality of kernels and an interconnect structure for interconnecting the plurality of kernels. The method includes creating a plurality of software objects, which each correspond to a different kernel in the plurality of kernels. An attribute value is assigned to a software object in accordance with a communication protocol. The kernel associated with the software object is configured in accordance with the attribute value.

Sharrit is directed to a communicator 10, which includes a plurality of reconfigurable resource units (RRUs) 13 that can each be dynamically altered to perform a multitude of processing tasks. A controller 16 determines a plurality of processing tasks to be supported by the communicator 10 and configures the plurality of reconfigurable resource units 13 accordingly. A memory 18 stores a library of configuration files for use by the controller 16 in configuring the plurality of reconfigurable resource units 13.

The applied references do not suggest the claimed software objects. Contrary to the Examiner's position in the Office Action, Sharrit's libraries are not software objects. There is no association between Sharrit's library files and different ones of the RRUs. On the other hand, the claimed software objects are associated with respective kernels. This claimed relationship between the software objects and the underlying hardware makes it easier for a user to prepare and analyze an application program, and shortens the time for the user to convert from one communication protocol to another.

With further regard to claims 1-11, 13-22, 25-28, 37-39, 41, 43, 45, 46, and 48, the applied references do not suggest a change to a software object resulting in a change in the kernel associated with the software object. Sharrit's library files are merely read-only tools which are not changed. Since Sharrit's files can not be changed, it necessarily follows that Sharrit can not teach a change in one of its library files resulting in a change in an associated RRU.

Shavitzky, which the Examiner applies as allegedly teaching an object-oriented virtual machine interface, fails to make up for Sharrit's deficiencies. Thus the claims are patentable over the applied references.

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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